

I Claim:

1. A system for managing data relating to a professional legal services project and making the data available to a user, where the data is maintained in two or more software applications having different formats, comprising:

a. a first software application for maintaining data in a first ODBC-compliant format;

b. a second software application for maintaining data in a second format other than an ODBC-compliant format;

c. a SQL server means;

d. a Cold Fusion web server means;

e. a professional services project management application;

f. said SQL server means being adapted to communicate with said first software application and said professional services project management application to transfer the data from said first software application to said professional services project management application;

g. said Cold Fusion server means being adapted to communicate with said SQL server means and said professional service project management application;

h. said Cold Fusion server means cooperating with said SQL server means to communicate with said second software application through said SQL server means to transfer the data from said second software application to said professional services

project management application;

- i. said professional service practice management application further comprising an interface for communicating the data to the user.
2. The system of Claim 1, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a shareware application.
3. The system of Claim 1, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a Lotus Notes database.
4. The system of Claim 1, further comprising an ODBC link tool means for communicating with said first software application.
5. The system of Claim 3, further comprising and ODBC link tool means for communicating with said Notes database.
6. The system of Claim 5, wherein said ODBC link tool comprises a Notes Distributed Enterprise Connectivity System.
7. The system of Claim 1, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data.
8. The system of Claim 1, wherein said second software application software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.

9. The system of Claim 1, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data; and said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.
10. The system of Claim 1, wherein said second software application is adapted to maintain accounting data.
11. The system of Claim 1, wherein said second software application comprises a TMC accounting system.
12. A system for managing professional legal services project information from two or more software applications in which the data is maintained in different formats, and making the data available to a user, comprising:
 - a. a first software application for maintaining data in a first ODBC-compliant format;
 - b. a second software application for maintaining data in a second format other than an ODBC-compliant format;
 - c. a SQL server means;
 - d. a Cold Fusion web server means;
 - e. a professional services project management application;

f. said Cold Fusion server means being adapted to communicate with said SQL server means and said professional service project management application;

h. said SQL server means being adapted to communicate with said first software application to transfer the data from said first software application to said professional services project management application;

i. said SQL server means being adapted to communicate with said second software application to transfer the data from said second software application to said professional services practice management application through said Cold Fusion server means;

i. said professional service practice management application being adapted to provide an interface for communicating the data to the user.

13. The system of Claim 12, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a shareware application.

14. The system of Claim 12, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a Lotus Notes database.

15. The system of Claim 12, further comprising an ODBC link tool means for communicating with said first software application.

16. The system of Claim 14, further comprising an ODBC link tool means for communicating with said Notes database.

17. The system of Claim 16, wherein said ODBC link tool comprises a Notes Distributed Enterprise Connectivity System.

18. The system of Claim 12, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data.
19. The system of Claim 12, wherein said second software application software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.
20. The system of Claim 12, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data; and said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.
21. The system of Claim 12, wherein said second software application is an accounting application.
22. The system of Claim 12, wherein said second software application comprises a TMC accounting system.
23. A method of managing professional services project information, comprising the steps of:

- a. maintaining data in a first software application in a first, ODBC-compliant format;
- b. maintaining data in a second software application in a second format other than an ODBC-compliant format;
- c. communicating the data from said first software application to a professional services project management application through a SQL server means;
- d. communicating the data from said second software application to said professional services project management application through said SQL server means cooperating with a Cold Fusion web server means;
- e. providing the data to the user through said professional services project management application.

- 24. The method of Claim 23, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a shareware application.
- 25. The method of Claim 23, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a Lotus Notes database.
- 26. In the method of Claim 23, the step of communicating the data from said first software application to a professional services project management application through a SQL server means, comprising communicating the data from said first software application to a professional services project management application through an ODBC link tool means.
- 27. The method of Claim 25, further comprising the step of communicating the data

from said first software application to said professional services project management application through an ODBC link tool means for communicating with said Notes database.

28. The method of Claim 27, wherein said ODBC link tool comprises a Notes Distributed Enterprise Connectivity System.
29. The method of Claim 23, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data.
30. The method of Claim 23, wherein said second software application software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.
31. The method of Claim 23, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data; and said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.
32. The method of Claim 23, wherein said second software application is an

accounting application.

33. The method of Claim 23, wherein said second software application comprises a TMC accounting system.

34. A distributed computer network adapted for use in a professional service practice, comprising:

- a. a first software application for maintaining data in a first, ODBC-compliant format;
- b. a second software application for maintaining data in a second format other than an ODBC-compliant format;
- c. a SQL server means;
- d. a Cold Fusion web server means;
- e. a professional services project management application;
- f. said SQL server means being adapted to communicate with said first software application and said professional services project management application to transfer the data from said first software application to said professional services project management application;
- g. said Cold Fusion server means being adapted to communicate with said SQL server means and said professional service project management application;
- h. said Cold Fusion server means cooperating with said SQL server means to communicate with said second software application through said SQL server means to transfer the data from said second software application to said professional services

project management application;

i. said professional service practice management application being adapted to provide an interface for communicating the data to the user.

35. The network of Claim 34, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a shareware application.
36. The network of Claim 34, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a Lotus Notes database.
37. The network of Claim 34, further comprising an ODBC link tool means for communicating with said first software application.
38. The network of Claim 37, further comprising and ODBC link tool means for communicating with said Notes database.
39. The network of Claim 38, wherein said ODBC link tool comprises a Notes Distributed Enterprise Connectivity System.
40. The network of Claim 34, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data.
41. The network of Claim 34, wherein said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.

42. The network of Claim 34, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data; and said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.
43. The network of Claim 34, wherein said second software application is an accounting application.
44. The network of Claim 34, wherein said second software application comprises a TMC accounting system.
45. A network for managing professional legal services project information from two or more software applications in which the data is maintained in different formats, and making the data available to a user, comprising:
- a. a first software application for maintaining data in a first ODBC-compliant format;
 - b. a second software application for maintaining data in a second format other than an ODBC-compliant format;
 - c. a SQL server means;
 - d. a Cold Fusion web server server means;
 - e. a professional services project management application;

- f. said Cold Fusion server means being adapted to communicate with said SQL server means and said professional service project management application;
 - h. said SQL server means being adapted to communicate with said first software application to transfer the data from said first software application to said professional services project management application;
 - i. said SQL server means being adapted to communicate with said second software application to transfer the data from said second software application to said professional services practice management application through said Cold Fusion server means;
 - i. said professional service practice management application being adapted to provide an interface for communicating said first and second data to the user.
46. The network of Claim 45, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a shareware application.
47. The network of Claim 45, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a Lotus Notes database.
48. The network of Claim 45, further comprising an ODBC link tool means for communicating with said first software application.
49. The network of Claim 47, further comprising and ODBC link tool means for communicating with said Notes database.
50. The network of Claim 49, wherein said ODBC link tool comprises a Notes Distributed Enterprise Connectivity System.

51. The network of Claim 45, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data.
52. The network of Claim 45, wherein said second software application software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.
53. The network of Claim 45, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data; and said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.
54. The network of Claim 45, wherein said second software application is an accounting application.
55. The network of Claim 45, wherein said second software application comprises a TMC accounting system.